

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/849,528

Examiner

Boris Pesin

Applicant(s)

FISH, EDMUND J.

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/17/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6-36,39-90,98 and 100-113.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Barbara Benoit on 1/5/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for providing notification information corresponding to a first communications identity, the method comprising:

- accessing notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein a beginning and an end of the at least one temporal period are specified in the notification setting information in advance of the beginning of the temporal period;

- determining whether the temporal condition is satisfied;

- accessing information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

- receiving geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

accessing a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

controlling dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

39. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-implemented method for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the method comprising:~~ The method of claim 36 further comprising:

accessing delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled;

receiving, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a proposed modification of notification setting information;

accessing delegation information associated with the category;

determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification based on the delegation information associated with the category, the determination being made after receiving the proposed modification; and

only permitting the proposed modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification.

44. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a computer program configured to, when executed by a processor, provide notification information corresponding to a communication identity, the medium comprising one or more code segments configured to:

access notification setting information that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein the notification setting information defines a duration and specifies at least one of a beginning and an end of the duration;

determine whether the temporal condition is satisfied; and

access information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

receive geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

access a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

control dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

53. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a computer program configured to, when executed by a processor, provide notification information corresponding to a first communications identity, the medium comprising one or more code segments configured to:

access notification setting information that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein a beginning and an end of the at least one temporal

period are specified in the notification setting information in advance of the beginning of the temporal period;

- determine whether the temporal condition is satisfied;

- access information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

- receive geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

- access a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

- control dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

54. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program configured to, when executed, provide notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the medium comprising one or more code segments configured to:~~ The medium of claim 53 wherein the one or more code segments are further configured to:

- access delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled;

- receive, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a proposed modification of notification setting information;

- access delegation information associated with the category;
- determine whether the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification based on the delegation information associated with the category, the determination being made after receiving the proposed modification; and
- only permit the proposed modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification.

55. (Currently Amended) A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a communication identity, the system configured to:

- access notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein the notification setting information defines a duration and specifies at least one of a beginning and an end of the duration;

- determine whether the temporal condition is satisfied; and

- accessing information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

- receive geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

- access a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

- control dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

64. (Currently Amended) A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a first communications identity, the system configured to:

- access notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein a beginning and an end of the at least one temporal period are specified in the notification setting information in advance of the beginning of the temporal period;
- determine whether the temporal condition is satisfied;
- access information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;
- receive geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;
- access a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and
- control dissemination of notification information relating to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

65. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the system configured to:~~ The system of claim 64 further configured to:

access delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled;

receive, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a proposed modification of notification setting information;

access delegation information associated with the category;

determine whether the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification based on the delegation information associated with the category, the determination being made after receiving the proposed modification; and

only permit the proposed modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification.

66. (Currently Amended) A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a communication identity, the system comprising:

means for accessing notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein a beginning and an end of the at least one temporal period are specified in the notification setting information in advance of the beginning of the temporal period;

means for determining whether the temporal condition is satisfied;

means for accessing information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

means for receiving geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

means for accessing a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and
means for controlling dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

73. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, for providing notification information corresponding to a communication identity, the method comprising:

accessing notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein the notification setting information defines a duration and specifies at least one of a beginning and an end of the duration;

determining whether the temporal condition is satisfied;

accessing information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

receiving geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

accessing a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

controlling dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second [[]]communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

91-97. (Cancelled)

98. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented system for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the system comprising:

means for accessing notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein the notification setting information defines a duration and specifies at least one of a beginning and an end of the duration;

means for determining whether the temporal condition is satisfied;

means for accessing information indicating that the first communications identity associated with a first mobile device is associated with a second communications identity such that the first communications identity corresponds to a person and the second communications identity corresponds to the same person, wherein the first communications identity is a different communications identity than the second communications identity;

means for receiving geographical location information associated with the first mobile device;

means for accessing a participant list of an instant messaging system, the participant list identifying communications identities designated by a user that are associated with the second communications identity; and

means for controlling dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied.

99. (Cancelled)

100. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the notification setting information comprises an indication of a repeating period.

102. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 further comprising determining an end of the duration based on the beginning of the duration.

103. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 further comprising determining a beginning of the duration based on the end of the duration.

104. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the beginning of the duration comprises a day and a time.

105. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the beginning of the duration comprises a day and an abstract indication of time.

106. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the beginning of the duration is specified in advance of the beginning of the temporal period.

107. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the notification setting information specifies a beginning of the duration.

108. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[99]] 55 wherein the notification setting information specifies an end of the duration.

109. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a communication identity, the system comprising:~~ The system of claim 66 further comprising:

means for accessing delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled;

means for receiving, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a proposed modification of notification setting information;

means for accessing delegation information associated with the category;

means for determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification based on the delegation information associated with the category, the determination being made after receiving the proposed modification; and

means for only permitting the proposed modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification.

110. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-implemented method for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the method comprising:~~ The method of claim 36 further comprising:

accessing delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled, wherein:

the multiple categories comprise multiple categories in which at least two categories of the multiple categories are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that a lower category is related to a higher category,

delegation information associated with the higher category also is associated with the lower category,

the user identity is associated with the lower category, and

only permitting the modification comprises only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on a determination whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the higher category;

receiving, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a modification of notification information regarding the notification setting information;

accessing delegation information associated with the category;

determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the category; and

only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification.

111. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program configured to, when executed, provide notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the medium comprising one or more code segments configured to:~~ The medium of claim 53 wherein the one or more code segments are further configured to:

access delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled, wherein:

the multiple categories comprise multiple categories in which at least two categories of the multiple categories are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that a lower category is related to a higher category,

delegation information associated with the higher category also is associated with the lower category,
the user identity is associated with the lower category, and
only permitting the modification comprises only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on a determination whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the higher category;
receive, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a modification of notification information regarding the notification setting information;
access delegation information associated with the category;
determine whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the category; and
only permit the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification.

112. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-based system for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the system configured to:~~ The system of claim 64 further configured to:

access delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled, wherein:

the multiple categories comprise multiple categories in which at least two categories of the multiple categories are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that a lower category is related to a higher category,

delegation information associated with the higher category also is associated with the lower category,

the user identity is associated with the lower category, and

only permitting the modification comprises only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on a determination whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the higher category;

receive, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a modification of notification information regarding the notification setting information;

access delegation information associated with the category;

determine whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the category; and

only permit the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification.

113. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer implemented system for providing notification information corresponding to a communications identity, the system comprising:~~ The system of claim 66 further comprising:

means for accessing delegation information associated with the communications identity, the delegation information including multiple categories of communications identities and, for at least one of the multiple categories, identifying notification information modifications to be controlled, wherein:

the multiple categories comprise multiple categories in which at least two categories of the multiple categories are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that a lower category is related to a higher category,

delegation information associated with the higher category also is associated with the lower category,

the user identity is associated with the lower category, and

only permitting the modification comprises only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on a determination whether the user identity is permitted to perform

the modification based on the delegation information associated with the higher category;

means for receiving, from a user identity associated with a category of the multiple categories, a modification of notification information regarding the notification setting information;

means for accessing delegation information associated with the category;

means for determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the category; and

means for only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In regards to independent claims 36, 44, 53, 55, 64, 66 73 and 98, the prior art found does not teach accessing notification setting information stored in a computer storage medium that identifies a temporal condition including at least one temporal period during which notification information is to be provided or withheld, wherein the notification setting information defines a duration and specifies at least one of a beginning and an end of the duration; and controlling dissemination of notification information related to the first communications identity based on whether the temporal condition is satisfied by, at least, making available the geographical location information associated with the first mobile device to the communications identities of the participant list associated with the second communications identity conditioned on the temporal condition being satisfied; in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Pesin whose telephone number is (571) 272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.